

Remarks

Claims 1-22 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 6-12, and 14-22 are rejected. Claims 2-5 and 13 are objected to.

Claim 2 is cancelled.

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 2 which the Examiner has indicated is allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 8 and 9 are amended to replace “using” with “the method comprising contacting an exhaust with.” Claim 10 is amended to limit the selection of oxide to “zirconia-praseodymia , mixed manganese-yttria and mixtures thereof.” Claim 11 is amended to insert “further” before “comprising.” Claims 14 and 15 are amended to replace “using” with “the method comprising contacting an exhaust with.” Claim 16 is amended to incorporate the limitation from claim 2 regarding the amount of copper.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 4-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by European Patent No. 815,925.

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claim 2 which the Examiner has indicated is allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claims 1 and 2-9 are now allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over European Patent No. 815,925.

Claims 10-12 and 14-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by European Patent No. 888,816.

Independent claim 10 is amended to limit the selection of is amended to limit the selection of oxide to “zirconia-praseodymia , mixed manganese-yttria and mixtures

thereof." The Examiner has already indicated the allowability of "mixed manganese-yttria." The Examiner states that Zirconia is present as a support. However, in claim 10 zirconia is present as part of a mixed oxide (i.e. zirconia-praseodymia). This is a different chemical species. Therefore, European Patent No. 888,816 does not disclose every limitation of the present invention. Accordingly, for at least this reason, claims 10-12 and 14-15 are now allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over European Patent No. 888,816.

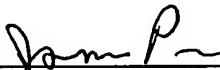
Independent claim 16 is amended to incorporate the limitation from claim 2 regarding the amount of copper. Specifically, claim 16 now requires that "the platinum group metal-free regenerable catalyst has a Cu loading from about 10 mol% to about 60 mol%." Since the Examiner has indicated the allowability of claim 2, amended claim 16 is now allowable. Accordingly, for at least this reason, claims 16-22 are allowable under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over European Patent No. 888,816.

Conclusion

Applicants have made a genuine effort to respond to each of the Examiner's objections and rejections in advancing the prosecution of this case. Applicants believe that all formal and substantive requirements for patentability have been met and that this case is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. If any additional issues need to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at his earliest convenience.

Please charge the Petition Fee of \$120.00 for a one-month extension to Deposit Account No. 02-3978, and charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments as a result of the filing of this paper to Ford Global Technologies, LLC Deposit Account No. 06-1510.

Respectfully submitted,
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